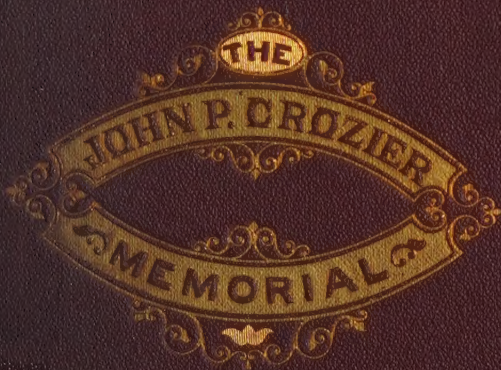


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THE
JOHN P. CROZER
MEMORIAL.



PHILADELPHIA:
AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY.
1866.

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52 & 54 North Sixth St.
Philadelphia.
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M E M O R I A L .

JOHN P. CROZER was born at West Dale, Springfield township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, on the 13th of January, 1793. He became a disciple of Christ when about fourteen years old. In April, 1809, he was baptized by Dr. Staughton into the fellowship of the First Baptist Church, Philadelphia. In the selection of a partner for life he was most happy in the choice of Miss Sallie L. Knowles, to whom he was married March 12th, 1825; he died March 11th, 1866, being 73 years old, leaving a widow and seven children.

As a *man* he possessed great physical vigor, unusual mental strength, a wealth of affection and tenderness, remarkable simplicity of spirit, and a stern inflexibility of purpose. He was pure in his morals, and blameless in his life.

In his *business*, his course was marked by integrity, industry, and perseverance. He possessed the rare

ability of projecting stupendous enterprises, and of giving prompt attention to the minutest details. He began with little, and, under the blessing of God, accumulated a vast fortune.

As a *citizen*, he was patriotic, loyal to his country, and unswerving in his fidelity to the Union, the Constitution and the laws.

As a *philanthropist*, he was large-hearted, open-handed, with a soul alive to the wants and woes of humanity.

As a *Christian*, he was humble, devout, laborious, intelligent, and generous. Every department of Christian effort shared in his sympathy. His religion was a thing of common life, carried into his domestic relations, his social intercourse, and his business affairs. It sweetened all his life, and threw a mantle of dignity and grace around his person.

In his family and in his intercourse with his employees, there was much of patriarchal simplicity and dignity. He taught his children to believe on Christ and love his kingdom; and so effective was this teaching, that their first public act after his death, was to lay upon the altar of the Lord a most munificent donation, as a monument to his memory.

For many years Mr. Crozer was a true friend, and an earnest supporter of the American Baptist Publication Society. In the deliberations of the Board, of which he was the chairman, his counsels were highly esteemed by his associates, because of his godly sincerity, accurate judgment, and intelligent appreciation of the nature and magnitude of the Society's work. His gifts to its treasury exceed, in the aggregate, the sum of twenty-four thousand dollars. He made three large donations, one of thirty-five hundred dollars, for the enlargement of the Society's building, and the others for the increase of its mission work, as is indicated in the following communications :

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

“UPLAND, FEB. 18, 1864.

“*To the Board of Managers of the American Baptist Publication Society:—*

“DEAR BRETHREN:—Each succeeding year of my life I become more deeply impressed with the importance of religious effort on behalf of those in

childhood and early youth; and as a natural consequence I wish our Society to devote increased attention to the publication, and more wide circulation of evangelical Sabbath School literature.

“I think many of the books we circulate, part of them too, of our own issues, might be dispensed with, or substituted by others of more evangelical character. But in the hands of our able Publication Committee I doubt not a change for the better will be kept in progress.

“I have been much exercised in my own mind as to what mode I might best adopt in order to aid the Society in effecting good by its labors in the Sabbath School work. A decision has finally been made to encourage the FORMATION of Sabbath Schools in destitute places, where no such schools have heretofore existed, and to aid, to some extent, those which have been newly formed. And with this object in view, I propose to donate *in trust* to the American Baptist Publication Society, in perpetuity, the sum of

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS,

subject to the following conditions and reservations,
viz:—

“This sum of ten thousand dollars is to be invested and kept in United States, or in Pennsylvania State Government loans, or in the funded debt of the City of Philadelphia, or in bond and first mortgage on real estate in said city, or in well secured ground rents also to be in said city—as may be decided upon and approved by any existing Board of Managers, at any stated meeting of said Board. Such approval, however, must have the sanction of two-thirds of the members of the Board. The yeas of those voting in the affirmative must be so recorded on the minutes. Negative votes may also be recorded, if required by the Board, or if asked for by the member, or members casting negative votes.

“Should the American Baptist Publication Society at any future time, by any regular and legitimate proceeding, or action, decide to change its name, or title, or to become united with, or merge into, any kindred society of the Baptist denomination engaged in a similar work, then this donation may be placed under the direction, and subject to the control of such new arrangement. But the purposes of the donor, as herein specified, are to be regarded, and neither the principal sum of ten thousand dollars,

nor the income or revenue accruing herefrom is to be directed or suffered to flow into any new channel, or for other objects than those herein specified.

“The income or revenue which may accrue from the investment of this principal sum of ten thousand dollars is to form and become a fund for the supply of books and publications to *new* Sabbath Schools formed, or in progress of formation, in destitute places; and to be equally applicable for schools of white and of colored children.

“All applications for aid, out of this fund, are to be disposed of in the usual way by the Board of Managers, with this condition, however, that no school shall receive the benefit of this fund to a greater amount of value than that of the one hundred volume library issued by the Society, and which, until recently, was sold for ten dollars.

“Long experience has confirmed me in the opinion that gifts and benefactions are most valued and generally more effective when not obtained without some cost or effort. I would, therefore, strongly recommend to this and to all future Boards to require, as a general rule, that applicants for aid from this fund shall, as a condition, be required to purchase,

from the Depository, books equal in value to the amount donated. There may, and probably will be, isolated cases, where a departure from this rule may seem desirable; therefore, with the foregoing expression of what seems proper as a rule, the donor gives a discretionary power to the Board.

“The terms and conditions of this donation are to be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the members present, and to be spread in full upon the minutes of the Board; and the officers to be empowered, as soon as the money is paid into the treasury, to furnish the donor with a certified copy of the whole proceedings connected with the transaction.

“JOHN P. CROZER.”

RECEPTION OF THE DONATION BY THE BOARD.

After the reading of this communication, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, viz.:

“WHEREAS, John P. Crozer, Esq., of Delaware county, Pennsylvania, has generously tendered to the Board of the American Baptist Publication Society the sum of ten thousand dollars, as a donation

for a special purpose, and on certain conditions as set forth in the above communication,

“Resolved, That this Board do cordially and gratefully accept from Mr. Crozer said donation for the purpose and on the conditions named by him.

“Resolved, That this Fund shall be entered on our minutes, and be known hereafter in our records as the JOHN P. CROZER SUNDAY SCHOOL LIBRARY FUND.

“Resolved, That in this large addition to our means of usefulness, bestowed thus unexpectedly by one whose bounty we have so often shared, we recognize anew the kindness of our Heavenly Father. And while we tender our heartfelt gratitude to one whose Christian benevolence is interwoven with the history of this Society, we also rejoice with him in that he is thus permitted to cast on another generation, the mantle of his own noble charity.”

INVESTMENT OF THE FUND.

A committee of three was appointed to confer with Mr. J. P. Crozer, and recommend to the Board the best investment for this Fund.

After a short absence, the committee reported, recommending the purchase of \$10,000 in the new six per cent loan of the city of Philadelphia, as the investment of the "John P. Crozer Sunday School Library Fund" The recommendation was unanimously adopted, and the securities named are now in the possession of the Treasurer.

The influence of this donation upon the well-being of the present and coming generations, cannot be over-estimated. As we look down into the future, and follow the working of the libraries, furnished from year to year by the interest of this Fund, we see feeble schools revived and strengthened; new schools established, many of them growing into vigorous churches; multitudes of children and youth converted to Christ, entering and enlarging every department of work in the Redeemer's Kingdom. Numberless and ever-multiplying springs of blessing will be opened, whose waters will deepen and widen and flow on for ever, making glad the hearts of multitudes. Thanks be unto God for inclining the heart of Mr. Crozer to establish this Sunday School Library Fund.

It is to be most earnestly hoped that this noble

example will be followed by many others. A dozen such donations would not supply the present demand for libraries on the part of needy and helpless schools. By these libraries their usefulness would be greatly increased.

The foregoing generous donation was made by Mr. Crozer on the 18th of February, 1864. About a year afterwards, the Board were again agreeably surprised by a munificent donation of

FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR
MINISTERS' LIBRARIES.

“UPLAND, FEB. 28, 1865.

*To the Board of Managers of the American Baptist
Publication Society:—*

“DEAR BRETHREN:—I have felt much concern of late in reflecting upon the severe privation and sacrifices of many of the Pastors of our small Churches. Those especially of new organizations are subject to not a few of these, having exhausted all their pecuniary resources to secure an education, and have often to enter upon pastoral duties, with a very limited salary as means of support, without

the ability to secure even a scanty library. With a view to render some small aid to such, in obtaining useful books, I propose to donate, *in trust*, to the American Baptist Publication Society in perpetuity, the sum of

FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS,

subject to the following conditions and reservations, viz: This sum of Five Thousand Dollars, is to be invested and kept in United States, or in Pennsylvania State Government Loans, or in the funded debt of the City of Philadelphia, or in bond and first mortgage well secured on real estate in said city, as may be decided upon and approved by any existing Board of Managers, at any stated meeting of said Board: such approval, however, must have the sanction of two-thirds of the members of the Board. The yeas of those voting in the affirmative must be so recorded on the minutes. Negative votes may be also recorded if required by the Board, or if asked by the member or members casting negative votes.

“Should the American Baptist Publication Society at any future time, by any regular and legitimate proceeding or action, change its name or title, or

become united with or merged into any kindred society of the Baptist denomination engaged in a similar work, then this donation, may be placed under the direction and subject to the control of such new arrangement, but the purposes of the donor as herein set forth, are to be strictly regarded, and neither the principal sum, nor the income or revenue derived therefrom, is to be directed or suffered to flow into any new channel, or for other objects than those herein specified.

The income or revenue which shall accrue from the investment of this principal of Five Thousand Dollars is to form and become a Fund for the supply, by gift, of books published or sold by the AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY, to Pastors of Baptist Churches in the United States, of such character and description as is already referred to in the foregoing, and as is hereinafter specified; no pastor however to have the benefit thereof to a greater amount than fifteen dollars; and included in the donation, the works of Rev. Andrew Fuller are recommended, though not insisted upon, as having a place.

In a former donation for the benefit of Sabbath

Schools, reference was made to a conviction that gifts and benefactions were most valued and generally most effective when not obtained without some cost and effort, and a recommendation was then made to the Board to require, as a general rule, that applicants for aid, should purchase from our Depository an amount of books, equal in value to the amount donated. More frequent variation to this rule may be proper and necessary in the distribution for *Ministers' Libraries* than for Sabbath Schools, yet the same recommendation is now given, leaving however a free discretionary power with the Board.

“The Benefits of this donation are intended for all pastors of Baptist Churches in the United States, recognized as *such by the Board of the American Baptist Publication Society* without regard to color. As many applicants may be living in remote places and unknown to any member of the Board, it must be required as an indispensable condition that satisfactory reference be given, and replies made in such form as the Board may deem proper.

“The terms and conditions of this donation are to be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the members present, and to be entered in full upon the minutes of

the Board, and the officers to be empowered, as soon as the money is paid into the treasury, to furnish the donor with a certified copy of the whole proceeding.

“Yours, with a fraternal respect,

“JOHN P. CROZER.”

ACTION OF THE BOARD ON THE RECEPTION OF
THIS DONATION.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

“*Resolved*, That we accept this liberal offer of our brother John P. Crozer, with its accompanying conditions, and that we rejoice with him in the prospect thus opened of new usefulness in a most interesting field, and that we place on record our heartfelt gratitude to God, by whose continued favor we have this new proof of unsolicited Christian generosity.”

INVESTMENT OF THIS FUND.

A committee, including the donor, was appointed to recommend in what manner the above fund should be invested. After deliberation, they recommended that the fund should be invested in the 7.30

U. S. Government Notes. The recommendation was adopted unanimously and the Notes were purchased.

Many will be constrained to praise the Lord, for enabling and inclining our brother to make this noble donation. The Society have before them no wider field of usefulness, than in increasing the power of the ministry. It is to be greatly desired that this may be the nucleus of a very much larger fund for ministers' libraries. This donation will do much, very much, but not a tithe of what is already needed, in this direction. We have in the denomination 13,468 churches and 8,436 ministers. Of these a very large number have not been favored with facilities for an extended education. Many, very many, of them are almost entirely without books, and have no funds with which to buy them. Certain books would greatly add to their usefulness, but they cannot secure them. This is true of our present ministry, and it will be true of the ministry of coming years. Many generations will have to pass away before our ministry can become generally educated. The demand is too great. Simply to give a pastor to each church now organ-

ized, we need over 5,000 more ministers. Where are these men to come from? Not from our colleges. In all our institutions of learning there are at this time less than 350 men preparing for the ministry. It is plain, therefore, that the pastors for our present and future churches must, in the main, come from the business walks of life, with whatever mental training they may have, when called of God to enter upon the work. They will need books. Good books would be of invaluable service to them. Who will help to furnish them? Will not others follow the example of Mr. Crozer, and, either by donation while they live, or by bequest in their wills, add to this fund, until it shall be able to send out several hundreds of small libraries each year? In the name of our Master, and his servants, we make the appeal, believing that many will respond. The good you will thus do, no mortal can measure.

Another year passed away, and with it this man of God ceased from his labors, and entered upon his reward in heaven.

The following action taken by the Board of the American Baptist Publication Society on the death of Mr. Crozer shows their appreciation of his character:—

“It having pleased the great Disposer of events to remove from among us the late Chairman of this Board, Mr. John P. Crozer, we desire to place on record our estimate of his character and services.

“Our brother was a man possessed of fine natural abilities, ripened and mellowed under the life-long influence of religion. Converted at the early age of 14 years, he maintained his Christian integrity to the close of his career. In him was combined the simplicity of childhood with the wisdom of age; great tenderness of feeling with stern inflexibility of purpose, and the ability for enlarged enterprise with marked diffidence and humility.

“We desire also to record our gratitude to God for the grace which illustrated in our brother the self-sacrificing generosity of the gospel. Of the various benevolent organizations of his own denomination, it is believed there is not one which has not received some token of his expansive beneficence, while our own Society has been a peculiar object of his attach-

ment, and the recipient of large contributions. He also extended the sphere of his liberality beyond the limits of his own denomination. The expressions of regard for his memory by other branches of the Church, attest his freedom from sectarian prejudice, and his wide and profound sympathy with every effort for the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom.

"Largely as we and others have profited by his princely benefactions, the richest gift he has left to us is his own good name."

A MISSIONARY MEMORIAL TO JOHN P. CROZER.

"UPLAND, PA., APRIL, 1866.

*To the Board of Managers of the American Baptist
Publication Society:—*

"We, the family of the late John P. Crozer, desire to erect a MISSIONARY MEMORIAL. His humility as a man, his devotion to the cause of Christ, his dislike of worldly show, his favorite mode of beneficence, unite with our own personal preferences, in suggesting that this Memorial should not consist

in a monumental pile of marble or granite; the magnificence of which might please the taste of some occasional observer. The Memorial, it seems to us, should be one that, by its influence under the Divine blessing, will bring, through all coming time, joy to the desolate, sinners to Christ, and glory to God. We, therefore, deem it best to establish a MISSIONARY Memorial.

And, knowing that the dear departed one, was deeply interested in the religious condition of the FREEDMEN of this country, and that, previously to his death, he was earnestly considering the best mode of aiding them; we, his widow and children, would take up and complete his unfinished work; and, therefore, offer to the Board of the American Baptist Publication Society, *in trust*, the sum of FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, to be sacredly held by you as the

JOHN P. CROZER MEMORIAL FUND FOR MISSIONS
AMONG THE COLORED PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY.

“THIS MISSIONARY MEMORIAL FUND, consisting of fifty thousand dollars, we tender to you in perpetuity, on the following conditions and limitations, viz.:—

“1. That it shall be invested and kept in either United States, or in Pennsylvania State Government loans, or in the funded debt of the city of Philadelphia, or in bond and first mortgage on real estate in said city, or in first mortgage upon Pennsylvania Central Railroad, or in well-secured ground-rents in Philadelphia ; as may be decided upon and approved by any existing Board of Managers, at any stated meeting of said Board: such approval, however, must have the sanction of at least two-thirds of the entire Board ; and the names of those voting in the affirmative must be recorded on the minutes of the Board.

“2. Should the American Baptist Publication Society, at any future time, by any regular or legitimate proceeding or action, decide to change its name or title, or become united with, or merged into any kindred Society of the Baptist denomination, engaged in a similar work, then this donation may be placed under the direction, and be subject to the control of such new organization ; but the purposes of the donors, as herein specified, must be sacredly regarded, and neither the principal sum of fifty thousand dollars, nor the income accruing there-

from, shall be diverted, or suffered to flow into any other channel, or for any other object, than those herein specified. If, at any time, the principal sum of the said fifty thousand dollars, or any part thereof, or the income accruing from the said principal sum of fifty thousand dollars, shall be diverted from the objects and purposes herein specified, then the said principal sum of fifty thousand dollars shall revert back to the donors, their heirs or assigns.

“3. That the Society shall keep open, upon its ledger, an account entitled the

JOHN P. CROZER MISSIONARY MEMORIAL FUND,

to which shall be credited the income from the invested principal of fifty thousand dollars, and to which shall be charged all donations made on the account of this Fund.

“4. That the income, or revenue which may accrue from the investment of this principal sum of fifty thousand dollars, shall be expended annually as follows, viz.:—

“(1.) One-fourth of the income from this MEMORIAL FUND, shall be used annually in supplying

Sunday School library books and publications to Baptist Sunday Schools of colored children.

“All applications for aid from this Fund shall be carefully considered and acted upon by the Board of Managers, and grants shall be made only to such schools as are found to be really needy. No school shall receive the benefit of this fund to a greater amount of value than from ten to sixteen dollars.

“Our own observation confirms us in the opinion, previously expressed by the departed loved one to whom this MEMORIAL is erected, that gifts are more valued, and, generally, more effective, when not obtained without some cost and effort on the part of the recipients. We, therefore, strongly recommend, that, as a general rule, Sunday Schools applying for aid from this fund, shall, as a condition, be required to purchase from the Board books equal in value to the amount donated.

“(2.) One-fourth of the income from this MEMORIAL FUND, shall be expended annually in supporting good SUNDAY SCHOOL missionaries among the colored people, who shall seek to strengthen and improve the Sunday Schools, already in existence, and to aid in the formation of new Baptist Sunday Schools,

wherever there is a hope of their being permanently sustained.

“(3.) One-fourth of the income from the said MEMORIAL FUND, shall be annually expended in furnishing colored pastors of churches, with suitable books for their libraries, to aid them in their pulpit preparations.

“The benefits of this fund, shall be given only to those pastors who are recognized by the Board of the American Baptist Publication Society as ministers of good Christian character and of approved ministerial standing in the denomination. And we require that the Board will, at all times, take the requisite measures to fully satisfy themselves with reference to the worthiness of each applicant, especially when living at a distance. No pastor may receive a greater amount from this fund, than from ten to sixteen dollars’ worth of books.

“Without positively specifying the books that shall be given in each case, we would strongly recommend, that the grants shall consist of books like the “Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge,” “The Blood of Jesus,” “Fuller’s Works,” “Pengilly’s

Scripture Guide to Baptism," "Baptist Church Directory," and the like. The books furnished, shall all be *well bound and in good salable condition.*

"(4.) One-fourth of the income from the said MEMORIAL FUND shall be expended annually in aiding young colored men, members of Baptist churches, and approved by the churches to which they belong, and the Institutions of learning at which they are studying, as proper candidates for the gospel ministry, in obtaining such literary and theological instruction as their talents and circumstances may require. The aid may be given in the form of necessary text-books, and in the payment of tuition; and shall be extended by the Board through the School, or Institution, that, in their judgment, is at the time, most effectually prosecuting the work of training a ministry for our colored churches.

"5. It is the desire of the donors, that the income from this Missionary Memorial Fund of fifty thousand dollars, shall be divided and expended equally each year in prosecuting the four kinds of mission work above indicated. But, should the demand for aid in behalf of any one of the above specified kinds of mission work not be equal in any given year, after

a proper publicity has been given of the existence of such aid, to the one-fourth of the income, for the year, from the MEMORIAL FUND of fifty thousand dollars, then, in such case, the unexpended balance may be expended for such of the other specified kinds of mission work, as in the judgment of the Board, needs it most.

“6. This MEMORIAL FUND is given expressly for the benefit of the *colored* people. But, if at any time, the race should become extinct, or greatly reduced so that from these, or from any other reasons, the demand on the Board for aid for the colored people in either of the four kinds of mission work herein specified, is not equal to the income accruing from the said MEMORIAL FUND of fifty thousand dollars, then, the unexpended balance, may be used by the Board in furnishing libraries to white Sunday Schools, and to pastors of white churches; under the same conditions and limitations as Mr. John P. Crozer specified in his donations to the Society for these purposes.

“7. It is especially stipulated that the yearly income derived from one-eighth part of said MEMORIAL FUND, shall be expended in the four different ways

above designated, among needy applicants from evangelical churches irrespective of denomination. And this, in the opinion of the donor of this eighth part of the MEMORIAL FUND, will accord with the views of the beloved parent, whose language on his dying bed was, 'How small denominational differences appear on the threshold of eternity!' It is further stipulated, that such publicity shall be given to the provisions of this article, as the Board of the American Baptist Publication Society shall deem just, and, that in the event that at the expiration of any year, any portion of the income derived from said one-eighth part, shall remain undistributed, the said Board of the American Baptist Publication Society, shall distribute this remaining portion as hereinbefore directed concerning the income derived from the other seven-eighth parts of said fund.

"8. That the Board of the American Baptist Publication Society, shall publish annually a detailed report of the grants made, and of the work done by the expenditure of the income from this MEMORIAL FUND of fifty thousand dollars. A copy of said report shall be sent annually to each of the donors

while they live, and to some one representative of each after their death.

“The donors shall have at all times the privilege of examining the records of the Board, respecting the investment of the principal sum of fifty thousand dollars constituting this Missionary Memorial Fund, and of the expenditure of its income.

“9. The terms and conditions of this donation, must be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board, and shall be spread in full upon the Minutes of the Board, and be read in their hearing as often as once a year; we suggest that it be at the first regular meeting in each year.

Sallie L. Crozer,.....\$6,250.00

Samuel A. Crozer,..... 6,250.00

Margaret Crozer Bucknell, 6,250.00

Elizabeth Crozer Griffith, 6,250.00

J. Lewis Crozer,..... 6,250.00

George K. Crozer, 6,250.00

Robert H. Crozer,..... 6,250.00

Emma Crozer,..... 6,250.00

Making in all, —————\$50,000.00.”

RECEPTION OF THE MISSIONARY MEMORIAL.

After the reading of the above communication, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

“Resolved, That this Board gratefully accept this generous donation of the family of the late MR. JOHN P. CROZER, upon the terms and stipulations named.”

The yeas and nays were then called, and all the members of the Board present, being nineteen in number, voted in the affirmative.

Whereupon the Secretary announced that more than two-thirds of the resident members of the Board having voted in favor of the resolution, the Memorial Fund had been accepted with its stipulations by the Board.

The following resolution was also adopted, viz:

“Resolved, That a committee of three, consisting of Rev. Wm. F. Hansell, D. D., Rev. J. Wheaton Smith, D. D., and Rev. George Dana Boardman, be appointed to prepare an acknowledgment of the sense of gratitude entertained by this Board for the generous donation made by the heirs of the late JOHN P. CROZER, to the American Baptist Publication Society.”

This committee reported the following letter of thanks, which, on motion, was unanimously adopted.

LETTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

"Philadelphia, May, 1866.

"The Board of the American Baptist Publication Society unanimously and gratefully accept the donation of Fifty Thousand Dollars, made by you to the said Society, and on the conditions specified by you, as a Fund to be consecrated to the memory of their late beloved president John P. Crozer.

"In accepting this donation the Board cannot refrain from expressing to you their estimate of the excellence of his character and of the eminent attachment to the cause of the Redeemer which uniformly distinguished him.

"They further desire to record their high appreciation, not only of the liberality of this donation, but also of the wisdom and Christian devotion which have prompted you to employ this method, to perpetuate the memory of a man, whose exalted virtues entitled him while living, to the esteem of his co-

temporaries, and now that God has taken him, will secure for his name and character the grateful recollection of coming generations.

“The memorial which you have chosen is one which will survive all time and change, and exist when the stateliest monuments of marble and brass shall have crumbled to dust.

Wm. F. Hansell,
J. Wheaton Smith, } Committee.
Geo. D. Boardman, }

To

Mrs. Sallie L. Crozer and family.”

INVESTMENT OF THE MEMORIAL FUND.

The fifty thousand dollars, constituting the JOHN P. CROZER Memorial Fund were, by a unanimous vote of the Board, invested as follows:—

\$15,000 in U. S. 7·30's.

15,000 “ Penn. R. R. 1st Mortg. Bonds.

10,000 “ City 6s. New

10,000 “ State 6s. War Loan.

ACTION OF THE SOCIETY.

When the announcement of this large donation, was made to the Society, at its annual meeting May 21st, 1866, Bartholomew T. Welch, D.D., led the

congregation in a prayer of thanksgiving, that will never be forgotten by those who united in it.

The Society by an earnest vote placed upon its record the following commendatory minute:

“The Committee to which was referred the proposition to establish The John P. Crozer Missionary Memorial Fund, ask permission to report:

“John P. Crozer is happy in a double life. Death has given him a place elsewhere, and yet has not been able altogether to take him away from his old sphere. Gone forward into the world of light beyond, not his name only, but his spirit still lives here, and in those born of his blood, showing that money is not the only heritable possession. For it is no dishonor to his family—they will count it their joy, to trace their noble beneficence back to a spring in him, whose name they are proud to bear. They allow the spirit which ruled his earthly life also to build his monument, now that he is dead. They let him still live, they help him to live grandly, and with a longer, unending life of good in the work which they empower this society to do. They trust his memory, not to local and perishable stone, but to a work which shall find its place wherever there is a

black man in America, in a work which has something of the immortality of the gospel itself. They might 'give bond in stone' that his name should endure. They wisely choose to commit it to the gratitude of the poor, and to link it with the progress of the knowledge of the kingdom of God. It is no uncertain trust. He shall live, known or unknown, in the words of teachers, in the pages of books, in the tuition of ministers, so long as this country shall have a ministry for his Redeemer. Though the name were forgotten, he will live in a work, which is for the eternal word of God, and in the immortal minds of men, and through the generations of a future whose end is not to be seen.

"But this Society, ready and solicitous to do honor to Mr. Crozer, accepts this trust, not for his sake more than for the good of the race, which, from his early days, touched the sympathies of his generous soul. As his sun sinks into another horizon, theirs rises in the east. They come up stretching their hands of hope northward, and their life comes out of his grave. So has Providence timed this magnificent gift with a magnificent opportunity. Both of them we hail with grateful praise to God. We

hear in them the call of our Lord to this Society. It is the first step and prophecy of a destiny laid upon us to meet and bless this race coming up out of their darkness and sorrow after the light of Christ. It is our ordination to one of the divinest ministries of our time. It leads where, unless faith fail, and love to Christ and his poor shall die, there will be others to follow. We are encouraged, then, to take up this trust in the spirit in which it is imposed. Their honor for the head of their family, is ours also. Their and his purpose of blessing to the enfranchised bondmen, to the children of Africa, is ours. Trustees of a benefit so ample, so timely, so free, we should count it our honor to fulfil, to enlarge it. The Society will not hesitate to express its feeling in reference to this proceeding. The following resolve is offered:

“Resolved, That this Society, accepting and approving, in its purpose and conditions, the trust committed to the Board by the family of the late Mr. John P. Crozer, with its great and welcome obligations, also places upon its record its appreciation of this unusual and magnificent benefaction, and hereby offer to Mrs. Crozer and her children the assurance

of cordial sympathy, both in the loss they have sustained, and in the honor they propose to the lamented head of their family. For the Committee.

S. L. CALDWELL."

We have now presented the several papers connected with the donations of Mr. Crozer, and with the Memorial Fund of his family. They tell their own story. These are generous and commendable benefactions, and will result in very great good. By the two munificent gifts of Mr. Crozer, the Society will be enabled to supply, each year, forty *new* white Sunday Schools, with a fifteen dollar library; and *thirty* ministers, with ten dollars' worth of good books for their libraries. The Memorial Fund will sustain one or two Sunday School Colporteurs, among the colored people—will supply fifty poor colored Sunday Schools with a library—seventy-five deserving colored pastors with ten dollars' worth of books, and furnish yearly \$750.00 towards the education of young colored ministers. And this varied work these donations *will repeat, year after year, forever*. Who can comprehend the ultimate and aggregate influence of these benefactions?

These Funds, however, as before intimated, will not supply all the demands of even the present time. The Board could, in the exercise of a wise discretion, distribute, annually, libraries to over two hundred, instead of "forty," new schools; and the demand will enlarge continually. Besides new schools, there are scores and hundreds of old ones, that are languishing for the want of a few books, which they are unable to purchase. And, instead of "thirty," there are, and will be each year, many hundreds of ministers, who would be greatly benefited in their work of preaching Christ, by a small addition of suitable works to their scanty libraries.

But the supply, inadequate as it now is, will steadily increase. There are other men, and women, too, who will wish to do something like that which has been done by Mr. Crozer and his family. The Lord Jesus has many faithful servants, who regard their wealth as a means with which to do good. And as they inquire for the way in which to expend it, so as to accomplish most for the cause of "Him, who loved them and gave himself for them," many will adopt the work of the Publication Society. Some will give liberal donations annually while they live;

others will leave large bequests in their wills. Some will enlarge the CAPITAL of the Society, that it may become a Publishing House worthy of Baptists, and equal to the stupendous work they must do in this direction. Others will wish to enlarge the Ministers' Library Fund, until it shall be able to add a few good books to the library of every needy minister in the denomination. One will make provision whereby every newly organized Baptist Sunday School in their own State, or in some new State or Territory shall be supplied with a hundred volume library. Another will establish a Fund for the free circulation of tracts and pamphlets, so that Home Missionaries, Missionaries of State Conventions, pastors, and others may be freely supplied with all that they can judiciously circulate. This will greatly increase their usefulness. Some will prefer to furnish the Society with the means with which to make a set of electrotpe plates of a New Testament, or of a pocket, Sunday School, or Family Bible; and by thus reducing the price, secure a wider circulation. Others will make provision for furnishing the Bible to all families who are known to be without it, and who are desirous of obtaining it; also to Seamen, Sol-

diers, and others. Some will wish to stereotype a given tract or book, in the English, German, French, Italian, or some other language; and thereby perpetuate it forever, and secure an extensive circulation. Others will wish to support *permanently* a Sunday School Missionary, who shall devote his entire time and energy to the organization of Sunday Schools. And others, still, will desire to sustain, year by year, a Colporteur, who will labor among the destitute, carrying the gospel of our God to those who either cannot, or will not come to the Sanctuary to hear it preached. In these, and in various other ways, provision will gradually be made for meeting the great, and ever increasing, demand upon the Society. The work of the Society, as the Publishing, Sunday School, Colporteur, and Bible Agency of Baptists, is so important, vast, and diversified, that persons of different tastes and predilections will find in it something, by the doing of which they can serve their Lord and bless the world. The donations of Mr. Crozer and family, we think, will not long stand alone.

APPENDIX.

OTHER PERMANENT FUNDS.

The great economy and the usefulness of the MISSIONARY COLPORTAGE, conducted by the Society, have commended it to very many persons. The donations to this work are increasing year by year. Some legacies have been given.

Two gentlemen, who resided near each other in the State of New York, being each desirous of doing something towards the permanent support of a colporteur of certain special characteristics, made the following provisions in their wills:

I.

THERON FISK PERMANENT COLPORTEUR FUND.

"I give and bequeath to the American Baptist Publication Society, located in the city of Philadelphia, the sum of two thousand and five hundred dollars, to be permanently invested by them to the use of the said Society, as follows: It is my will that the annual interest be annually appropriated in the em-

ployment of an ordained minister of the Baptist denomination, who is consecrated to the work of the Lord, and who is in his social relations, and who agrees to remain through life, free from all connection or affinity to any and every secret society of whatever name or nature; whose labors are devoted to the spread of the gospel by the Colporteur system of distributing religious and evangelical publications, and at the same time by the simple and primitive mode of preaching the gospel extemporaneously from house to house, and in supplying destitute places and feeble churches by preaching the gospel on the Sabbath. As it is my desire to give as extensive benefit as possible, by this small pittance, to the scattered sheep of Christ, I have therefore preferred that an ordained minister should be selected, that he may be fully qualified to every good word and work as the case may demand in the administration of the ordinances of God's house."

II.

JONATHAN DAVIS PERMANENT COLPORTEUR FUND.

"I, Jonathan Davis, give and bequeath unto the American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia,

Pa., the sum of twenty-three hundred dollars, (\$2300) as a permanent fund, to be invested by said Society so as to draw seven per cent. interest annually. One hundred and fifty dollars of said interest to be applied for the support of a Colporteur, to be employed by and under the supervision of said Society. The balance, or remainder of the interest—eleven dollars, to be applied in furnishing a library yearly to some poor destitute Sabbath School.

“The said bequest is made on the following conditions, viz:

“1st. That said Colporteur, supported by said bequest, shall submit a report of his labors to the donor, or his heirs at least once a year.

“2d. That said Colporteur shall be a man of approved piety, a faithful defender of the principles and practices of the Baptist denomination—totally abstaining from the use of intoxicating drinks and tobacco—and who is not a member of, and pledging himself not hereafter to unite with any Secret Society, so long as he shall continue to labor under the patronage of this bequest.”

INVESTMENT OF THESE FUNDS.

These two legacies, in accordance with the minds of the givers, were invested in the Business of the Society; the Board obligating themselves to pay permanently six per cent. interest on the first, and seven per cent. interest on the second, toward the support of Colporteurs, as designated by the Wills of Messrs. Fisk and Davis. By this mode of investment, both the principal and interest will be perpetually doing good. The principal, being in the business capital, will continue to provide religious literature, and the interest will, in each case, help sustain a Missionary Colporteur for ever.

These men of God, before going to their rest in heaven, have each thus secured the appointment of a Missionary to labor among the perishing, year after year, down through coming generations. There is good reason to hope that brethren Fisk and Davis will be permitted to greet in the heavenly world scores, and even hundreds of precious souls, who will be saved through the instrumentality of their bequests, though somewhat peculiar. They are a portion of the "blessed dead," whom, while they rest from their labors, their works follow.

At the time of these bequests, the salary of ordinary Colporteurs was only \$150 per annum. Colporteur salaries now range from three to five hundred dollars, according to the man appointed. There are few more pleasing ways of doing good, than to preach Jesus to the poor and neglected, every day while we live, and for generations after we shall be in heaven. This we may do by proxy—by arranging for the permanent support of a good Missionary Colporteur.

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